

WE CLAIM:

1. A network connectable equipment comprising:
  - a processing unit;
  - a power supply module;
  - a communication module for connecting with a network;
  - a power supply line for connecting said power supply module to said processing unit; and
  - a power control line for connecting said communication module and said power supply module,wherein said power supply module receives a power-on request via said power control line, and supplies power to said processing unit via said power supply line based on said power-on request.
2. A network connectable equipment of claim 1, wherein said communication module receives a frame transmitted from another network connectable equipment connected to said network, discriminates if the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, and if the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, transmits said power-on request to said power supply module via said power control line.
3. A network connectable equipment of claim 1, wherein said power supply module comprises:
  - a switch for turning on and off power supplied to said processing unit; and
  - a switch controller for controlling the switch,wherein said switch controller supplies power to said power supply line based

on said power power-on request by controlling said switch.

4. A network connectable equipment of claim 2, wherein said power supply module is connected to an interrupt signal line for sending an interrupt signal to said processing unit, and sends said processing unit a request to start processing for turning off power via said interrupt signal line.

5. A network connectable equipment of claim 4, wherein said power supply module comprises:

a timer being connected to said switch controller,

wherein said switch controller sends said processing unit a request to start processing for turning off power via said interrupt signal line when a time period measured by said timer expires.

6. A network connectable equipment of claim 1, wherein said power supply module supplies power to said communication module even if portions other than said communication module are in a power-off state via said power supply line.

7. A network connectable equipment comprising:

a power control line;

a communication module connected to said power control line;

a power supply line;

a processing unit connected to said power supply line; and

a power supply module connected to said power supply line and said power control line,

wherein said power supply module receives a power-on request via said power control line, and supplies power to said processing unit via said power supply line based on said power-on request.

8. A network connectable equipment of claim 7, wherein said power supply module supplies power to said communication module even if portions other than said communication module are in a power-off state via said power supply line.

9. A network connectable equipment of claim 8, wherein when said communication module receives a frame transmitted from another network connectable equipment connected to said network, determines whether the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, and if the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, transmits said power-on request to said power supply module via said power control line.

10. A equipment for controlling power to a first equipment connected to a network, comprising:

- a communication module connected to said network;
- a power supply module for supplying power to said communication module;
- a power supply control line connected to said communication module and said power supply module;
- a power supply line connected to said first equipment and said power supply module,

wherein said communication module receives a frame transmitted from a second equipment connected to said network, discriminates if the received frame is

destined to said first equipment, and transmits a power-on request to said power supply module via said power control line upon determination that said received frame is destined to said first equipment, and

wherein said power supply module enables power to be supplied to said first equipment in response to said power-on request via said power supply line.

11. A power supply module, included in a network connectable equipment having a processing unit and a communication module, comprising:

wherein said power supply module is connectable to a power control line which is connected to said communication module and is connectable to a power supply line which is connected to said processing unit, and

wherein when said power supply module receives power-on request from said power supply module via said power control line, said power supply module supplies power to said processing unit via said power supply line based on said power-on request.

12. A power supply module of claim 11, wherein said power module always supplies power to said communication module, and

wherein said power supply module receives a power-on request via said power control line, when said communication module receives a frame transmitted from another network connectable equipment connected to said network, discriminates if the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, and if the received frame is destined to said network connectable equipment, transmits said power-on request to said power supply module via said power control line.

13. An information processing apparatus comprising:

- a storage unit;
- a display unit;
- a network controller for connecting said information processing apparatus to a network;
- a processing unit for executing processing in accordance with contents of processing stored in said storage unit;
- a power supply controller for supplying said network controller with electric power even if said information processing apparatus remains in a power-off state;
- and
- a power supply switch controller for instructing a power-on state of said information processing apparatus when said network controller receives a frame from said network while said information processing apparatus remains in the power-off state, thus turning said information processing apparatus from the power-off state to the power-on state.

14. An information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said network controller identifies whether the received frame is to turn said information processing apparatus to the power-on state.

15. An information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said power supply switch controller is included in said power supply controller.

16. A network connectable equipment comprising:

a communication module for connecting with a network; and  
a power supply line for connecting a power supply module to said communication module;  
wherein said power supply module supplies power to said communication module via said power supply line.

17. A network connectable equipment of claim 16, further comprising:  
a processing unit connected to said power supply line.

18. A network connectable equipment of claim 16, wherein said power supply module supplies power to said communication module even if portions other than said communication module are in a power-off state via said power supply line.

19. A network connectable equipment of claim 17, further comprising:  
a power control line for connecting said communication module and said power supply module, and  
wherein said power supply module supplies power to said processing unit via said power supply unit based on a power-on request sent from said communication module even if portions other than said communication module are in a power-off state via said power supply line.

20. A network connectable equipment comprising:  
a power unit;  
a power supply controller;  
a first line for connecting said power unit and said power supply controller;

a communication module for connecting with a network;  
a second line for connecting said power supply controller to portions in said network connectable equipment; and  
a third line for connecting said communication module and said power supply controller,  
wherein said power supply controller controls a destination of the power supplied by said power.

21. A network connectable equipment of claim 20, wherein said power supply controller supplies power to said communication module even if portions other than said communication module are in a power-off state via said second line.

22. A network connectable equipment of claim 20, further comprising:  
a processing unit,  
wherein if said power supply controller receives a power-on request via said third line, said power supply controller supplies power to said processing unit via said second line based on said power-on request.

23. A network connectable equipment of claim 22, wherein said power supply controller supplies power to portions other than said processing unit via said second line after it supplies power to said processing unit.

24. A network connectable equipment comprising:  
a power unit;  
a first device;

a second device;  
a first line for connecting said power and said first device; and  
a second line for connecting said power and said second device,  
wherein said power unit supplies power to said first line in response to a  
signal sent from said second device when said first line is in a power-off state and  
said second line is in a power-on state.